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**WASHINGTON** (March 3, 2010) – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) today announced fire grants for three volunteer fire departments in the Sixth District.

“Firefighters are on the front lines every day, protecting lives and saving property. They deserve modern equipment and the best in safety gear. This grant program helps ensure that fire companies have the necessary resources to quickly and effectively respond to emergency calls,” Bachus said.

Bachus announced the following grants.

### **Union Grove Volunteer Fire Department, Chilton County - \$261,250**

Vehicle acquisition grant for purchase of a new pumper truck

Chief Robin Ellison said, “We will be purchasing a rescue pumper which is a multipurpose engine. The new truck will replace an old vehicle and was badly needed. This will greatly benefit the people that we serve in the Union Grove community. We have been fortunate with grants. The first one was awarded in 2003 when my grandfather, Charles Culp, was Fire Chief. I am trying to follow his example of community service. I want to say thank you to all who assisted us in getting this grant and especially thank Congressman Bachus for all of his help.”

### **Isabella Fire and Rescue Department, Chilton County - \$13,300**

Operations and Safety Grant for the purchase of a thermal imaging camera and an automatic external defibrillator

Chief Brett Conway said, “This equipment will allow us to better search a fire and locate victims. It will also allow us to find hidden spots of fire and prevent them from rekindling. This equipment will help us save lives with a much quicker response. We would like to thank Congressman Bachus for his support of this grant program and for his support of our department.”

### **Fultondale Fire and Rescue, Jefferson County - \$47,530**

Operations and Safety Grant for purchase of eight self-contained breathing apparatus and training supplies

Chief Larry Holcomb said, “This grant will allow us to replace air packs that are outdated and are not compliant with current national standards. This will greatly improve the personal safety of our firefighters. As a volunteer fire department, we would not have been able to afford this type of equipment without the support of Congressman Bachus.”

Funds awarded under the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program are used to meet the firefighting and emergency needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated medical services organizations. Only the applications most closely conforming to program priorities are considered and scored by peer review panels.

The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

